

August 16, 2013

# Weekly Views

The Rockville Correctional Facility's first ever Purposeful Living Units Serve garden has harvested 1488.65 pounds of produce thus far in the season. The entire allotment of produce has been donated to the House of Hope in Brazil, IN. Pictured below is a single harvest of 158.5 pounds that included green beans, beets, cantaloupe, carrots, chili peppers, corn, cucumbers, egg plant, green peppers, gypsy peppers, squash, tomatoes and zucchini!

Indianapolis Star reporter John Tuohy and photographer Danese Kenon came to Wabash Valley Correctional Facility focusing on the facility Compassionate Care Program (CCP).



CCP provides end of life care for offenders by offenders. The story is part of the Star's read on a growing trend in corrections, aging populations. Tuohy interviewed a Wabash infirmary patient and a CCP offender caregiver for his report.

Staff bid farewell to Case Manager Gary Crabb, from Brazil, IN, during a recent retirement celebration held at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. During his service of 33 years, 2 months and 28 days, Crabb promoted through the ranks of custody and case management making significant contributions to the facility at each level. (photo left)

Westville Correctional Facility's (WCC) Therapeutic Community (TC) hosted a Saturday Family Reintegration Seminar for offenders and invited guests. Family Reintegration is an elective class within the TC that focuses on family values, forgiveness and support. Within this 28 week program, offenders periodically meet with their support systems: significant other, parents, and children to share issues, ideas and hopes that lead to a successful re-entry. Since January, 35 family members have participated in WCC's Family Reintegration Day. TC Counselor John Krecek expressed his appreciation for the efforts of staff to assure the success of this important day.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility Indiana Canine Assistant Network (ICAN) program received its first four dogs for training. The current plan is to acquire a total of ten dogs to be trained by offender handlers at the facility. The Pendleton ICAN program, with the assistance of the facility's American Legion Post #608, is sponsoring a fund raiser this month (fish platter sale) to raise money for the new program. (photo right)



Students of Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA) criminal justice students toured the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) in preparation for the career panel discussion with IREF and PEN Products staff. Over half of the group of 60 students arrived earlier that morning and participated in a symposium and workshop with IREF's resident-run Toastmaster's group, Urban Unity Gavel Club, in the chapel, before eating lunch at the facility and joining the tour. (photo left)

Commissioner Lemmon presented two Correctional Industrial Facility employees with their prizes for Castlight's registration promotion. By registering for Castlight, Michael Miller and Kylie Mabe were randomly selected as contest winners. They both won FitBit devices that are used for monitoring health indicators throughout the day.

Edinburgh Correctional Facility hosted interstate auditors for the facility's reaccreditation audit by the American Correctional Association (ACA). The audit process commenced three years prior, involved department internal auditing for interim years, and ended with the interstate visiting committee's review last week. Results of an overall score of 97.6% placed

Edinburgh in a top performance tier regarding operations and quality of life standards for offenders of adult correctional institutions nationwide.

Four students from Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility presented their finished artwork to Lisa Floyd, South Madison Foundation (photo right). Last year, Pendleton received the designation of a Main Street Community from the State of Indiana. The mission of Main Street is to encourage revitalization and restoration in downtown Pendleton resulting in positive sustainable change in the community. South Madison Foundation approached Pendleton Juvenile regarding artwork for the windows of currently vacant businesses. The students' artwork recreated the store front and store interior.



39 members of the Gospel Echoes Team held a Freedom Rally at the Indiana State Prison (ISP) in the facility chapel. Jack Duckworth, former ISP Superintendent, was in attendance and gave the opening prayer. The day consisted of gospel music, preaching, video testimonies and inspirational clips. The offenders were given the opportunity to have one on one sharing of the Gospel as well as receive Gospel Echoes Literature. The offenders were served a picnic lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, chips, Whoopie pies, and lemonade, prepared and served by the volunteers from Gospel Echoes. The program was well received by the 115 offenders who attended.